

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides:

5 an inorganic layered compound dispersion prepared by  
cleaving the inorganic layered compound to a thinner layer level  
and capable of providing high corrosion resistance and gas  
barrier properties when utilized in the form of a coating  
composition or a gas barrier coating composition;

10 a gas barrier coating composition with which films having  
high transparency and satisfactory gas barrier properties can  
be obtained at low cost when the gas barrier layers are formed  
in a thinner film form and, when the film thickness is increased,  
films having good transparency and still better gas barrier  
properties can be obtained; and

15 plastic- or paper-based gas barrier packaging containers  
having high gas barrier performance characteristics as  
obtainable by application of such a gas barrier coating  
composition.

The present invention provides:

20 an inorganic layered compound dispersion,  
wherein an inorganic layered compound (b) is dispersed using  
a peroxide (a) in a dispersion medium.

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